



Alexandria Children & Youth Community Plan (CYCP)

Strategy-Shaping Session with the Youth Services Coordinating Council





Today's Purpose

Turn our Year-One idea into a concrete action plan.



How We Got Here:

Youth Needs Assessment & Follow-Up Engagement with Youth

2024–2025 | Youth Needs Assessment Process

- 90 youth and adults trained to engage students
- 1,800+ middle and high school students engaged through 137 Youth Listening Sessions
- Youth identified priorities, explored root causes, and proposed solutions

2025–2026 | Civic Action Projects

- Students reviewed and validated Youth Needs Assessment findings
- Youth explored researched possible solutions through civic action projects
- Students brought their ideas and recommendations to community partners and decision-makers for feedback

Spring 2025 & 2026 | Student-Made CYCP Report Cards

- Students created CYCP Report Cards assessing community progress on issues
- Report Cards include recommendations for what schools, City agencies, and community partners could do next

This work is shaping the next Children & Youth Community Plan (CYCP). It's updated every five years to guide citywide efforts around shared goals, align partners, and advance equity.





Results-Based Accountability: How We're Framing This Work



Result: What conditions do we want for children and youth?



How are we doing? What does the data tell us about how youth are doing?



Story Behind the Trends:
What's driving current conditions?

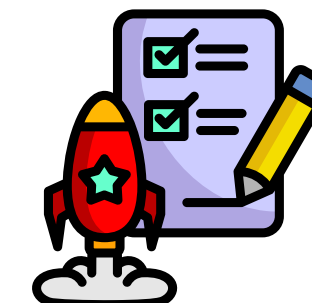
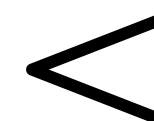


Partners: Who has a role to play?



What Works: What does the research say about what could help improve conditions?

**Today's
Focus**



Action: What are we going to do?



Start with the Result

The condition of wellbeing we want for children, youth, and families.



Result

Every family has what they need to live with stability and thrive in Alexandria.

Problem

Alexandria has many resources, but families don't always know they exist or how to access them. Students and caregivers described relying on trusted adults, word-of-mouth, and personal relationships to learn about resources. Families also reported that complicated systems, language barriers, and stigma can make it difficult to seek help.



What Works?

What does the research say about what could help connect youth with resources?



High-impact and lowest-cost strategy

Put access points in places where youth & families already go.

(Examples: [Multnomah County SUN Service System](#), [Toronto Youth Hubs](#) / [Ontario Youth Wellness Hubs](#), [San Francisco Wellness Centers](#))

Effective access sites include:

- schools
- afterschool programs
- libraries
- food distribution sites
- faith organizations
- pediatric clinics



What are we going to do?



Long-Term Strategy

Make it easier for families to find help and feel welcome asking for support.

Year-One Action

Pilot a coordinated "Youth Resource Campaign" that places QR codes and youth-friendly resource links in locations youth already spend time (i.e. in school bathrooms, cafeterias, libraries, rec centers, buses, or community spaces).



What are we going to do?



Ideas generated from last session:

- Invite YSCC partners submit a link that they want to share, which would be featured in the Link-Tree on the Social Media Site of choice
- Have a podcast-type Zoom recording so clips can be shared on social media page of choice
- Use Zorah's valuable "market research" ("How did you hear about us?" Social Media; teachers; libraries; family; website and email) and Post the Flyer / QR codes in the high-traffic areas - Classrooms, Library, Etc
- If there's a viable email list for parents, send periodic updates out to that list

Parking Lot – Ideas for Years 2-5

- Organize annual youth-serving provider resource fair
- Pilot a coordinated outreach approach using trusted family liaisons and youth-serving partners to improve awareness of available supports among multilingual and immigrant families
- Support parent-to-parent transition mentoring (e.g., 8th grade families mentor 6th grade families)



What Students Said Would Help



Make Resources More Visible	Use Communication Channels Youth Use	Make It Easier to Connect to Help
• Awareness campaigns	• Social media campaigns	• Counselors
• Posters & Flyers	• School announcements	• Teachers
• Classroom & Advisory presentations	• Online resource pages	• Trusted adults
• Assemblies & schoolwide promotion	• QR codes (for reporting issues)	• Coaches
• Minga (for reporting issues & evaluating promotion/communication efforts)	• Student-led awareness efforts (i.e. incentivize/promote student artists to promote resources)	• Peer support / student leaders / youth ambassadors
• Use schools as resource hubs	• Hands-on Tutorials during Advisory	• Safe/private/anonymous ways to ask for help
	• Phone hotlines	

See all youth recommendations here: alexandriava.gov/child-and-family-services/children-and-youth-community-plan-report-cards



What are we going to do?



- **Identify one concrete action for the next 6–12 Months**
 - *What would it actually take to move our One-Year Action forward over the next year? What are the first steps the YSCC could realistically take?*
- **Identify partners to engage**
 - *Who should be involved as this action moves forward? Think about partners who are already working on this issue and where the YSCC can help strengthen alignment, visibility, or coordination.*
- **Performance Measurements - How Will We Know Anyone is Better Off?**
 - *Short-Term Measurements: 6-12 months (action level)*
 - *Long-Term Measurements: 1-5 years (strategy level)*



Thank you!

Contact

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